



Mayor Jeffrey A. Lansky

February 22, 2013

Todd A. Snitchler, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

Dear Chairman Snitchler:

Too Crooked to Fall

On Monday evening, October 29th, at 10:00 P.M., the power went out in several Maple Heights neighborhoods due to the severe weather from Superstorm Sandy. Within minutes false statements and leaks circulated from FirstEnergy. The glitter of official distortion and the epic splendor of the thought-numbing reality of over 3,000 homes without power confused the eye and confounded our understanding. Hitler always said, "The bigger the lie, the more people will believe it." John Skory, President of FirstEnergy Corporation and Chad Self, Manager of External Affairs, have tried to remove their guilt by making this a meaningless act. They fibbed and fibbed and fibbed some more. It was all a lie – one of the biggest falsehoods since Hurricane Ike was forced upon the people of Maple Heights and Northeast Ohio.

HOW FIRSTENERGY KILLED THE TRUTH

Tuesday, October 30th, 2012: Chad Self states to Maple Heights Fire Chief John Drsek, Service Director Edward Urbanek, and myself that this will be damage containment and control day. All outages will only be assessed. **NO REPAIR WORK!**

HOW THEY LIED TO PASS THE BUCK

Wednesday, October 31st, 2012: Chad Self states it is repair and restoration day. "We can expect to see multiple crews working throughout neighborhoods restoring power. **ONLY ONE CREW DOCUMENTED TO BE WORKING IN ALL OF MAPLE HEIGHTS.**

HOW THEY LIED ABOUT RESTORING POWER

Thursday, November 1st, 2012: There still only one crew working in Maple Heights on the power outages. Waiting for additional crews to arrive. Chad Self is unavailable by office phone and cell phone, and not responding to e-mails. In fact, at 6:00 A.M. that morning, Maple Heights Fire Chief John Drsek informed me that I would be getting a telephone call from FirstEnergy President John Skory. At the writing of this letter, **AM STILL WAITING FOR THAT CALL!**



HOW THEY LIED ABOUT HAVING ENOUGH SUPPORT STAFF

We all had plenty of warning that a MAJOR SUPERSTORM was coming. FirstEnergy had time to send nearly fifty percent of its staff to the East Coast. Why then did FirstEnergy not secure support staff from unaffected states before the SUPERSTORM hit? Many media outlets reported FirstEnergy had requested support, but only after residents had been WITHOUT POWER FOR DAYS.

HOW THEY LIED ABOUT THE POWER OUTAGE BEING TEMPORARY

Friday, November 2nd, 2012: In the early afternoon, crews finally arrive from THE GREAT STATE OF INDIANA. Power was restored in some neighborhoods between 9:00 P.M. and 10:00 P.M. Additional crews arrive from Ohio Edison in Akron at some time after midnight. Remaining power is restored sometime before sunrise on November 3rd. An Indiana lineman stated to a Maple Heights resident, "You're very lucky. If your mayor wouldn't have fought for you, you wouldn't have power until next week!" FINALLY THE TRUTH ENDURES!

So what did FirstEnergy accomplish? What kind of web did it weave, when it weaved to deceive? It built a system that increases risks, discourages service, and punishes residents. And when FirstEnergy fails again, and we all know it will, it will cause another crisis. This essentially means we're stuck with them – or at least until the next hurricane, super storm, or blizzard hits, which could happen anytime now.

In all fairness, a follow up meeting with TOO CROOKED TO FAIL was TOO GOOD TO PASS UPI At a public meeting at Maple Heights City Hall on January 7, 2013, Chad Self (a.k.a. Selfish) stated, "TRUST ME." No harm, no foul, right? WRONG! In his answers to many questions, Self started out by trying to answer openly in his own narcissistic way. His standard answer was an absurdity, "I'll take a look at that," which when sung to the tune of M.C. Hammer's "You Can't Touch This" was the ultimate "bait-and-switch." When City Council asked: "Why were residents without power for five days?" Self said: "I'll take a look at that." When I asked: "Why are so many street lights out?" Self said: "I'll take a look at that." When Fire Chief Drsek asked: "Why has tree trimming around power lines ceased to exist, and when would decaying power lines be replaced?" Self stated: "I'll take a look at that." When I asked: "Why did power go out on December 26th, 2012, seven times during the afternoon, causing City Hall employees to re-boot their computers seven times?" Self answered (you guessed it): "I'll take a look at that." So in the spirit of "Break it Down" and "STOPI Hammer Time!", I came to the following conclusion: We all have been lied to so shamelessly and so many times since Hurricane Ike that the failure to tell the truth to the public has become a half-baked feature of FirstEnergy. Remember in 2003, this is the same company which started "the biggest power failure in North America's history," that was likely caused by a tree in Walton Hills, Ohio. On August 14th, 2003, a FirstEnergy power line sagged into a tree and shut down, setting off a series of alarms that told FirstEnergy officials something was wrong. But they weren't sure what was wrong, and that set off a chain reaction across other power grids. Other power lines sagged into trees and shut off, forcing other power lines to overload. Overburdened, they shut off, causing a domino-effect failure throughout southeastern Canada and eight northeastern states. In total, fifty million people lost power for two days. This failure also contributed to at least eleven deaths, and cost an estimated six billion dollars! All of this because FirstEnergy was TOO CHEAP TO MAINTAIN ITS TREE TRIMMING RESPONSIBILITIES!

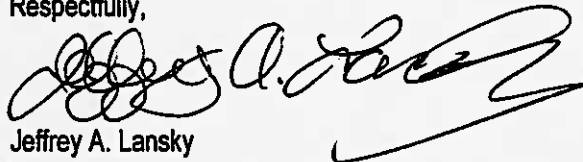
"Treason doth never prosper," wrote an English poet; what's the reason? Well if it prospers none dare call it treason! I offer the following: Burned out street lights not repaired (article attached). Splintered poles not replaced (photo attached). Abandoned poles not removed (photo attached). Outdated and outmoded sub-stations not replaced. No tree trimming programs. Power outages becoming a way of life. Residents forced to freeze in the winter, roast in the summer, and throw away spoiled and rotten food. Why? As Gordon Gekko said in the movie *Wall Street*, "That greed, for lack of a better word, is good. Greed is right, greed works. Greed clarifies, cuts through, and captures the essence of evolutionary spirit. Greed, in all of its forms; greed for life, for money, for love and knowledge has marked the upward surge of mankind." Perhaps the SURGE (pun intended) that G. G. references in his speech and that FirstEnergy so desperately



seeks could be next found at Cleveland Browns Stadium. FirstEnergy CEO Tony Alexander (who according to Forbes is now the 275th richest person in America, with an annual salary of \$6.16 million. It should be noted that in 2009, Alexander's annual salary was more than \$18 million dollars which included stock options, now listed as N/A on his wealth profile) found a willing partner in Browns owner Jimmy Haslam. \$6 million dollars a year for at least seventeen years totaling \$102 million for naming rights to the Browns Stadium is a ponzi-like scheme right out of the Wall Street Bank Bailout of 2008, with Haslam playing the part of George W. Bush saying to Nancy Pelosi, "Hey, can you, like, give me some money?" FirstEnergy has continually put us LAST! So it is only fitting that their sign over the stadium read LAST ENERGY STADIUM. If they are looking for a mascot to replace the sacked "Reddy Kilowatt" of the former Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company. I suggest they consider Pinocchio. By the way, did anyone tell these two guys that Cleveland Public Power supplies the power to the stadium? Well at least they don't have to worry about the lights going out.

When I was a child, I believed that justice came into being automatically. That virtue was its own reward. That good should triumph over evil. But, as I grow older, I find that this is just not true. Individual human beings have to create justice. This is not easy because the truth often possesses a threat to power (pun intended again!) and one often has to fight power at a great risk to themselves. I am willing to take that risk. I am willing to fight. I am willing to come forward. I am therefore asking that you investigate FirstEnergy Corporation and its CEO Tony Alexander, President John Skory, and Manager Chad Self. We the People cannot continue to live in darkness caused by these men and this company. Nothing you will ever do will be more important. It's up to you.

Respectfully,



Jeffrey A. Lansky
Mayor

P.S. Remember, a lie cost Richard Nixon the Presidency.

JAL:tlv

cc: U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown
U.S. Senator Rob Portman
Congresswoman Marcia Fudge
Congressman David Joyce
Governor John Kasich
State Representative John Barnes, Jr.
State Senator Nina Turner
Attorney General Michael DeWine
John Skory, FirstEnergy President
Mia Moore, FirstEnergy

